

# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PACIFIC OCEAN DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII 96858-5440

**CEPOD-PDC** 

NOV 1 5 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, HONOLULU ENGINEER DISTRICT, ATTN: CEPOH-PP-C

SUBJECT: Peer Review Plan Approval for the Ala Wai Canal Project, Island of O'ahu, Hawai'i

- 1. The enclosed Review Plan for the Ala Wai Canal Project, Island of O'ahu, Hawai'i has been prepared in accordance with EC 1105-2-408 and the Director of Civil Works' "Peer Review Process" memorandum dated March 30, 2007.
- 2. The Review Plan is available for public comment, and the comments received will be incorporated into the Review Plan as appropriate. The Review Plan will be coordinated with the Ecosystem Restoration Planning Center of Expertise of the Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is the lead office to execute this Review Plan. The Review Plan does include external peer review.
- 3. I hereby approve this Review Plan, which is subject to change as study circumstances require, consistent with study development under the Project Management Business Process. Subsequent revisions to this Review Plan or its execution will require new written approval from this office.
- 4. The point of contact for this Review Plan can be reached at (808) 438-6940.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

EUGENE M. BAN, P.E. Director of Programs

#### PEER REVIEW PLAN

## ALA WAI CANAL PROJECT ISLAND OF O'AHU, HAWAI'I

Feasibility Phase General Investigation Section 209, Flood Control Act of 1962 (Public Law 87-874)

#### November 2007

The information contained in this quality control and peer review plan is distributed solely for the purpose of predissemination peer review under applicable information quality guidelines. It has not been formally disseminated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

#### 1.0 TITLE

Ala Wai Canal Project

#### 2.0 PURPOSE

In accordance with EC 1105-2-408, Peer Review of Decision Documents, dated 31 May 2005, the purpose of a peer review is to ensure the quality and credibility of Corps decision documents by adjusting and supplementing the current review process. The contents of this Peer Review Plan shall be incorporated into the Ala Wai Canal Project Management Plan.

#### 3.0 SUBJECT

The feasibility study of the Ala Wai Canal Project is authorized under Section 209 of the Flood Control Act of 1962. The final feasibility study product will be a decision document containing the recommended plan and supporting analysis including an environmental impact statement. An External Peer Review will be conducted of the feasibility study report.

The Ala Wai Canal project is a multiple purpose project. The State of Hawaii as represented by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is the local sponsor. The feasibility study is investigating and evaluating solutions to environmental degradation and flood control problems throughout the entire Ala Wai watershed (Manoa, Palolo, and Makiki drainages, including Waikiki and surrounding areas).

The Ala Wai Canal is a two-mile long man-made waterway constructed during the 1920's to create and protect the Waikiki area on the island of Oahu. The Ala Wai watershed encompasses more than 16 square miles. The carrying capacity of the Canal has been significantly reduced by accumulation of silt and debris from the Manoa, Palolo, and Makiki streams. During the November 1965 and December 1967 storms and passage of Hurricane Iniki in 1992, the Ala Wai Canal was overtopped causing flooding in the Waikiki district. The 30 October 2004 storm in

Manoa is estimated to have caused over \$100M in damages to property and irreplaceable documents in the University of Hawaii's library, causing the community and agencies to seek the expansion of the Ala Wai Canal project for flood mitigation measures in the upper stream areas.

The feasibility study is being developed by the Corps' Honolulu District and consultants.

Disciplines include:

Project Manager	Honolulu District
Plan Formulator	Honolulu District and consultant
Environmental Coordinator	Honolulu District
Ecologist	Consultant
Hydrologic Engineer	Honolulu District and consultant
Hydraulic Engineer	Honolulu District and consultant
Economist	Honolulu District and consultant
Cost Engineer	Honolulu District and consultant
Value Engineer	Honolulu District
Design Engineers	Honolulu District and consultant
Real Estate Specialist	Honolulu District

#### 4.0 PEER REVIEW TEAM

The decision document is not likely to contain influential scientific information or a highly influential scientific assessment. However, the recommended plan is expected to be novel in that it will present all actions to be undertaken by Federal, state, and local agencies, and the community to improve the overall health of the watershed. This integrated watershed plan will be comprehensive in nature and will ensure actions are coordinated. The sophistication of this plan will present challenges in gaining project authorization and follow-on funding.

For the reasons above, an external peer review will be conducted on the decision document (feasibility report). The review will be coordinated through the Ecosystem Restoration Center of Expertise at the Mississippi Valley Division, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The timing of the peer review will occur after various Corps of Engineers reviews and concurrent with public circulation of the document. All peer review comments will be considered in the preparation of the final feasibility report document.

The Peer Review Team includes:

Project Manager		
Plan Formulation		
Hydraulic Analysis		
Hydrologic Analysis		
Economic Analysis		
Environmental Analysis		
Cultural Resource Study		
Cost Engineering		
Geotechnical Analysis		

Real Estate Study	

## 5.0 COORDINATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The peer review will be coordinated through the Ecosystem Restoration Center of Expertise.

The feasibility study report will be reviewed by the Peer Review Team during the draft feasibility study report review period.

Public review will be conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process; at the time the draft feasibility report is circulated for public review.

All public review comments will be considered in the preparation of the final feasibility report document.

### 6.0 MODELS

Models to be used include HEC-HMS, HEC-RAS, and HEC-FDA. These models were developed by the Corps' Hydrologic Engineering Center.

#### 7.0 POINT OF CONTACT

Questions and comments on this peer review plan and other feasibility study activities can be directed to the Project Manager who can be reached at (808)438-6940.